

Land Classification Interpretations
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***Prime and Important Farmland***

Prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and is also available for these uses (the land could be cropland, pastureland, forest land, or other land, but not urban built-up land or water). It has the soil quality, growing season, and moisture supply needed to economically produce sustained high yields of crops when treated and managed, including water management, according to acceptable farming methods.

In general, prime farmlands have an adequate and dependable water supply from precipitation or irrigation, a favorable temperature and growing season, acceptable acidity or alkalinity, acceptable salt content, and few or no rocks. They are permeable to water and air. Prime farmlands are not excessively erodible or saturated with water for a long period of time, and they either do not flood frequently or are protected from flooding.

This section includes lists of soil survey map units that meet the soil requirements for prime farmland in the county and state. Soils that have limitations, such as a high water table or flooding, may qualify as prime farmland if these limitations are overcome by such measures as drainage or flood control. State important soils are also noted.

*This subsection includes:*

- **(a) County Prime Farmland List**
- **(b) Missouri's Soil Survey Mapping Units Denoting Prime Farmland and Farmland of Statewide Importance**

Marion and Ralls Counties, Missouri  
Prime Farmland

(Only the soils considered prime farmland are listed. Urban or built-up areas of the soils listed are not considered prime farmland. If a soil is prime farmland only under certain conditions, the conditions are specified in parentheses after the soil name.)

Map symbol	Soil name
4	Belknap silt loam, occasionally flooded
5	Blackoar silt loam, occasionally flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
6	Blase silty clay, rarely flooded
7B	Calwoods silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
8	Carlow silty clay, occasionally flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
9	Cedargap silt loam, frequently flooded (Prime farmland if protected from flooding or not frequently flooded during the growing season)
10	Chariton silt loam, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
11	Chequest silty clay loam, occasionally flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
12	Edina silt loam (Prime farmland if drained)
13	Fatima silt loam, frequently flooded
14B	Gifford silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, rarely flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
19	Landes fine sandy loam, occasionally flooded
22B	Marion silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
23B	Menfro silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
24B2	Mexico silty clay loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes, eroded
25	Moniteau silt loam, occasionally flooded (Prime farmland if drained)
26	Putnam silt loam (Prime farmland if drained)
28B	Smileyville silt loam, 2 to 6 percent slopes (Prime farmland if drained)
29B	Vigar loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes
30B	Weller silt loam, 2 to 5 percent slopes